BREA Minutes  (approved at January 9, 2018 meeting)

Contact Information:
Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA:
BNL Bldg. 400A
BERA Recreation / Attention BREA
Upton, NY 11973

Meeting Date and Place:  Tuesday Dec. 12, 2017; 1:05 PM, BNL building 400 Conference rooms 1 and 2, Upton, NY. Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh.


President Liz Seubert opened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above.

1. Minutes. Draft minutes of the October and November minutes were circulated for members present to review. For the November draft, an addition to the attendee list and a correction to section 7b were noted. The November minutes were approved by voice vote with the revisions to be included. The October draft minutes were approved by voice vote.

2. Treasurer's Report. Steve Shapiro reported that there was no material change in BREA finances.

3. Membership Report. Beth Yu Lin reported that BREA has 428 paid members. 124 will expire at the end of 2017. Sixteen member dues were received since the November BREA meeting. It was noted that recently the BREA website has not been regularly updated. As a result, the list of paid-up members is no longer accurate.

4. Nominating Committee/Election of Officers for 2018-9. Steve Shapiro noted that some members may not have received a ballot. Some problems may be related to the shift to email communications for many members. Acceptance of ballots was extended to Dec. 15.

5. Newsletter. Liz Seubert reviewed plans for the Newsletter provided by Mona Rowe. In the Jan/Feb edition, new BREA officers will be announced. Renee Warno will be introduced as contact for web postings. The new retiree spouse badging policy will be described, if it is available. An article featuring Peter Takacs is planned. A notice about the DOE medical screening program is scheduled for the Mar/Apr newsletter. Obituaries may be included. A history of BNL is planned for future publication in one or more issues. A suggestion that the newsletter regularly carry a list of new members was met with general approval.

6. Community Advisory Council news. The CAC regular meeting is scheduled for 6:30 on the second Thursday of the month (Dec. 14 this month). Eena-Mai Franz will attend the December meeting. It was noted that individuals associated with CAC wrote a letter to some Congressional representative supporting the activities and funding of BNL.

7. New Business. a) The status on access to site by spouses of retired employees who cannot accompany the spouse to obtain a badge was questioned. In principle, spouses will be able to have access to BNL under most circumstances, but the official policy has not yet been issued. b) In view of the fact that TIAA has recently
circulated a long response to the NY Times articles discussing TIAA policies and programs, it was decided not to follow up on issues raised by the Times with BNL HR at this time.  

- A member described his contact with a person advocating that he represent the member in dealings with the DOE program for cancer screening. Essentially the person looking to represent the retiree is looking for a fee amounting to a few percent of any potential monetary award. The opinion of a retired member who had dealt with the program was that the representative was not needed.  

- A round of applause by attendees thanked Liz Seubert for her two-year term as BREA president.

Meeting was adjourned at about 2:05. As usual, the next meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, Jan. 9, 2018. Regular location is BNL Building 400 (RSB) Rooms 1 and 2. Check the BREA website for confirmation of date and time.